



**John Elias Baldacci**  
*Governor, State of Maine*

Paul K. Vestal, Chair  
Edwin P. Chester, Esq. Vice Chair

## **Maine Juvenile Justice Advisory Group**

MINUTES  
December 1, 2010

### **I. Roll Call:**

Present: Mark Boger, Richard Brown, Ned Chester, Jim Foss, Jacinda Goodwin, Jamie Johnson, Joan McDonald, Shelley Reed, Trish Shorey, Jonathan Shapiro, Barry Stoodley, Christine Thibeault, and Paul Vestal

Absent: Cathy McLoy Ashland, Nickole DeMerritt, Dalene Dutton, Denise Giles, Margaret Longworth, Hannah McMullen, Abigail Comee-McCourt, Charles Laverdiere, Jim Morse, Dan Nichols, Doug Patrick, Adam Royer and Patrick Walsh

Staff: Kathryn McGloin, Damon Lefferts, Elaine Brann

Guests: Noel Bonam, DMC Coordinator

Paul Vestal, JJAG Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:15 A.M and welcomed the JJAG Members and asked JJAG Members to introduce themselves to Noel.

### **II. Minutes:**

The minutes for the October 27th meeting were approved.

**Motion:** To approve the October 27, 2010 Minutes

**Moved:** Dick Brown/Shelley Reed/2nd.

**Action:** Approved

### **III. Chair Report:**

Paul announced that Anne Haskell will not be appointed as member of the JJAG, due to what the Governor felt would be a conflict of interest. A recommendation was made that Randall Liberty be appointed to the JJAG and that was approved. He will be at the January meeting.

Paul updated the committee on the Juvenile Justice Implementation Council and handed out a one page report from that meeting listing the recommendations. Paul stated that yesterday's meeting was attended by him and Barry and it was a good meeting. Paul also stated that the Children's Cabinet lost their funding for the Vistas. Paul brought up the Education component of the group and asked Shelley to update everyone.

Shelley Reed brought the Committee up to date on the Department of Education's initiative and listed three action steps.

*The mission of the Maine Juvenile Justice Advisory Group is to advise and make recommendations to state policy makers and to promote effective system level responses that further the goals of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act*

1. Guidance process
2. Graduation Rate – Posting of the report will be on the web.
3. Standards based system

#### **IV. Juvenile Justice Specialist Report:**

Kathryn reported that the SAG Training held on November 18, by Vicki Blankenship, Training Consultant from Alaska, and Tom Murphy, OJJDP, went really well. Shelley agreed and stated that it was nice to get together and hear from everyone and the training offered some ideas on technical support for more training. Kathryn stated that they have offered to come and help us with our 2012 Three Year Plan.

The visit to the Subgrantees was positive and we received positive feedback regarding the programs and how successful they were because of the JJAG. They are doing great and have great outcomes. Our money is being well spent.

The REAL school is requesting TA with Karen Williams hopefully in February.

The 2009 Annual Report is finished and should be ready to hand out to the Legislators soon. Will start working on the Three Year Plan next month.

Kathryn announced that the kids from Trekkers will be exhibiting their photographs on the walls in the Elkins Wing at the Department of Corrections and that this project will be getting media attention. The JJAG funded the project which was originally shown at the Farnsworth Museum in Rockland.

There was further discussion on SAG Training and a question was asked if law enforcement officers should get more training. A suggestion was made that School Resource Officers be included. Ned pointed out that there was no due process protection and a misunderstanding of the role of the SRO. Several members cited issues of discrepancy on roles and duties of the School Resource Officers and job descriptions varied throughout the state from school to school. Need to have a clear statewide curriculum. Karen Williams Adolescent Brain Training was also suggested for Law Enforcement Officers and SROs.

#### **V. Compliance Monitoring:**

Damon Lefferts stated that police department inspections have gone well, so far so good, no big problems. He will be going north to Aroostook County. A question was asked regarding the Officer Training Program (Effective police Interactions with Youth) and Damon stated that 9 people have signed an agreement to attend the training for three days. Since there were only 9 who signed up, the training will be held in one place, the Westbrook PD.

## **VI. Committee Reports:**

Christine – Legislation:

- New Legislators sworn in today.
- JJAG Members usually meet with and introduce themselves to the Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee.

Christine updated everyone with the Legislative proposals she presented at the Prosecutors Association meeting.

1. Clarify that no bail is available for juveniles. Eliminate the bail component.
2. Clarify juvenile detention. If a kid is brought before the court within 48 hours we do not have to summons the parents.
3. Clarify bind-over issue. To notify the parent and juvenile.
4. Allow juvenile courts to enforce its role when a juvenile fails to appear.
5. Failure to pay Fine should be license suspension and fine, the same as adults. Propose that we extend that suspension to juveniles.
6. Sentence Alternative. Give Juvenile Court the same options of offering deferred disposition. Adults can withdraw plea after a year.
7. Who will supervise the juvenile during that year? Is it appropriate to have JCCOs supervising a juvenile during that disposition?

Joan McDonald – Grants: Joan mentioned the CPS RFP, due December 16, 2010. Kathryn stated that Dalene came up with using the scoring Rubric, which will be used on the RFPs. Kathryn also stated that the new RFP made it easier for schools to understand and hoped that more would apply this time.

## **VII. Disproportionate Minority Contact Report:**

Ned stated that the DMC Committee is up and running. He also stated that the Committee has about 10-12 people and includes a broad reach of people who will be good committee members. The focus primarily will be in the Portland communities.

Noel Bonam gave his presentation and report on the DMC. He put together a two page report highlighting the projects the DMC Committee will be focusing on and gave a brief synopsis of each of the goals.

One of the goals mentioned was a newsletter and Noel handed out a copy of what the DMC newsletter might look like. Suggestions were made to add Maine Juvenile Justice Advisory Group across the top of the newsletter above the title DMC Bulletin. This newsletter will contain information and lots of links and highlights. Noel asked if this could be put on the website.

Jacinda suggested that Native Americans not be overlooked since there were many in the Portland area that did not live on Reservations and Tribal data may not identify them as Native Americans.

Noel agreed and responded that right now they wanted to target refugees first.

A question was asked as to what concerns they were hearing from the people in the community.

Noel responded that there were two major issues:

1. Lack of awareness
2. Lack of connection with Law Enforcement.

Kathryn responded that Muskie will be doing case reviews and interviews at police departments in the target area.

The issue of education was also mentioned and Shelley Reed provided information on what schools are doing for refugee kids. Shelley stated that there is a Second Language Program.

#### **VIII. Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 11:26 A.M.

**The next meeting will be January 26, 2011 at the Maine Criminal Justice Academy from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM.**